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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/868,783	09/28/2001	Peter Kovarik	032287-022	6191

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EXAMINER

KNOWLIN, THJUAN P

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2642

DATE MAILED: 06/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/868,783

Applicant(s)

KOVARIK ET AL.

Examiner

Thjuan P. Knowlin

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 September 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-57 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-57 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 September 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/01/02</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The following guidelines illustrate the preferred layout for the specification of a utility application. These guidelines are suggested for the applicant's use.

Arrangement of the Specification

2. As provided in 37 CFR 1.77(b), the specification of a utility application should include the following sections in order. Each of the lettered items should appear in upper case, without underlining or bold type, as a section heading. If no text follows the section heading, the phrase "Not Applicable" should follow the section heading:

- (a) TITLE OF THE INVENTION.
- (b) CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS.
- (c) STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT.
- (d) THE NAMES OF THE PARTIES TO A JOINT RESEARCH AGREEMENT
- (e) INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISC (See 37 CFR 1.52(e)(5) and MPEP 608.05. Computer program listings (37 CFR 1.96(c)), "Sequence Listings" (37 CFR 1.821(c)), and tables having more than 50 pages of text are permitted to be submitted on compact discs.) or
REFERENCE TO A "MICROFICHE APPENDIX" (See MPEP § 608.05(a). "Microfiche Appendices" were accepted by the Office until March 1, 2001.)
- (f) BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.
 - (1) Field of the Invention.
 - (2) Description of Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
- (g) BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.
- (h) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S).
- (i) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.
- (j) CLAIM OR CLAIMS (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (k) ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (l) SEQUENCE LISTING (See MPEP § 2424 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. A "Sequence Listing" is required on paper if the application discloses a nucleotide or amino acid sequence as defined in 37 CFR 1.821(a) and if the required "Sequence Listing" is not submitted as an electronic document on compact disc).

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: The specification does not include the previously described section headings. Each of the lettered items should appear in upper case, without underlining or bold type, as a section heading. Appropriate correction is required.

Priority

4. An application in which the benefits of an earlier application are desired must contain a specific reference to the prior application(s) in the first sentence(s) of the specification or in an application data sheet by identifying the prior application by application number (37 CFR 1.78(a)(2) and (a)(5)). If the prior application is a non-provisional application, the specific reference must also include the relationship (i.e., continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part) between the applications except when the reference is to a prior application of a CPA assigned the same application number.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Vergnaud et al (US 6,715,087).

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6. In regards to claims 1, 8, 14, 15, 18, 25, 26, 33, 35, 49, 50, and 51, Vergnaud discloses a process and information transmission system for remote feeding of a local component (Fig. 2 and terminal 5₁) via a transmission line (Fig. 2 and line L) to the exchange component (Fig. 2 and concentrator 3) of an out-of-area switching device (Fig. 12 and Ethernet switch 2' and Fig. 5 and switch 44) of an information transmission system (col. 6 lines 48-53), to which several subscriber lines (Fig. 12 and lines L) are connected, whereby the local component is remote-fed with a remote feeding voltage source (remote power feed unit 31) provided in the exchange component (Fig. 2 and col. 6 lines 63-66), by means which the subscriber terminals (Fig. 12 and terminals 5₁-5_N) connected to the subscriber lines (Fig. 12 and lines L) are supplied preferably by way of subscriber interfaces (Fig. 12 and lines L), wherein the power consumption of the local component is measured on an ongoing basis and the power remote-fed via the subscriber lines is reduced when a predeterminable limit value of the power consumption is exceeded at least for a portion of the activated or active subscriber terminals (col. 2 lines 52-62, col. 3 lines 47-57, and col. 4 lines 14-40).

7. In regards to claim 2, Vergnaud discloses the process, wherein the power consumption of the local component is measured continuously by the remote feeding current (remote power feed unit 31) flowing thereinto via the transmission line (col. 6-7 lines 63-8 and col. 9 lines 39-51).

8. In regards to claims 3, 16, 34, 46, 47, and 48, Vergnaud discloses the process, wherein when a predeterminable remote feeding current is exceeded depending on the current activity status of the subscriber terminals, the voltage applied to the subscriber

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terminals for maintaining these status or impressed current is reduced by a predeterminable value (col. 2 lines 36-51, col. 3 lines 47-54, and col. 7 lines 17-34).

9. In regards to claims 4, 43, 44, and 45, Vergnaud discloses the process, wherein when the respective subscriber terminal is in the active status the subscriber feeding voltage and/or the subscriber feeding current is reduced (col. 2 lines 36-51, col. 3 lines 47-54, and col. 7 lines 17-34).

10. In regards to claim 5, Vergnaud discloses the process, wherein the call voltage and/or the call current is reduced in the call status of the respective subscriber terminal (col. 2 lines 36-51, col. 3 lines 47-54, and col. 7 lines 17-34).

11. In regards to claims 6, 17, 27, 28, 29, 31, and 32, Vergnaud discloses the process, wherein the remote-fed power is reduced gradually, whereby after each stage of the power reduction the power consumption of the local component compared to the predeterminable limit value and such reduction is terminated if the limit value is exceeded (col. 2 lines 52-62, col. 3 lines 47-57, and col. 4 lines 14-40).

12. In regards to claims 7, 12, 13, 36, 37, 52, 53, and 54, Vergnaud discloses the process and information transmission system, wherein the remote-fed power is reduced directly by way of a closed analog regulation loop (col. 7 lines 26-34 and col. 16 lines 31-45).

13. In regards to claims 9, 10, and 11, Vergnaud discloses the information transmission system, wherein the device (remote power feed unit 31) for determining power consumption is formed by a current meter for measuring the remote feeding current (col. 6-7 lines 63-7, col. 13 lines 57-60, and col. 14 lines 1-13).

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14. In regards to claims 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 30, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 55, 56, and 57, Vergnaud discloses the configuration and process, having a direct-current converter (Fig. 2 and power supply unit 22), preferably comprising a transducer-transformer (Fig. 2 and transformers 41 and 40), which converts the voltage of a remote feeding voltage source (remote power feed unit 31) switchable in the exchange component (Fig. 2 and concentrator 3) to the transmission line (Fig. 2 and line L) and thus feeds the subscriber terminals (Fig. 12 and terminals 5_1 - 5_N) connected to the local component (Fig. 2 and terminal 5_1), whereby provided in the local component is a monitoring device (Fig. 5, circuit 43, col. 10 lines 19-36, and col. 10 lines 49-63), with which the current power requirement of the local component and of the subscriber terminals connected thereto can be established, and whereby the remote feeding voltage source in the exchange component can be controlled by the monitoring device depending on the established power requirement by means of a transmission device connected to the transmission line and the feeding voltage required for the current power requirement can be adjusted in the exchange component, wherein a buffer condenser can be switched by a controllable switch to the supply input of the direct-current converter, whereby at least one of the terminals of the buffer condenser is connected by way of a booster branch containing a rectifier-element, with interposition of another rectifier element if required, to one of the cables of the transmission line, and in that a control output of the transmission device is connected to the control input of the controllable switch, whereby the voltage on the buffer condenser is constantly monitored and the buffer condenser is

charged in the exchange component by the remote feeding voltage source in the event of a power loss (col. 7 lines 9-34 and col. 8 lines 14-38).

15. In regards to claim 22, Vergnaud discloses the configuration, wherein the controllable switch is formed by a FET (col. 16 lines 17-19).

Conclusion

16. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Kraicar (US 4,629,905) teaches a circuit arrangement comprising two feed circuits connectable to a load having mutually opposite poling. Douhet et al (US 4,953,055) teach a system and a protection and remote power-feeding device for equipment connected by two transformers to a four-wire transmission line.


17. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thjuan P. Knowlin whose telephone number is (571) 272-7486. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00pm.

18. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on (571) 272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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19. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Thjuan P. Knowlin


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